

NSC BRIEFING

13 June 1967

FRANCE'S NEW GOVERNMENT

- I. Investiture of Bourges-Maunoury by 240-194 vote--less than absolute majority--continues minority government with doubtful support. *298 out 595*
 - A. Socialists, most Radicals and some 60 rightists supported.
 1. Communists and Poujadists opposed.
 - B. Last minute abstention of Popular Republicans cut majority.
 1. Rightists warned their vote does not bind them.
 - C. However, Premier considered adroit manipulator and may hold on until fall.
- II. Retention of Lacoste as Minister in Algeria expected to mean immediate increase in pacification effort.
 - A. Opponents of Lacoste policy turned down ministries.
 - B. Bourges-Maunoury himself takes strong line.
 1. Sparked Suez war as solution to Algeria.
 2. Leaked classified information to blame British for failure and to play up own role.
 - C. Nevertheless, Premier has promised to press administrative and political reform with temporary statute.
- III. On finances he has warned deputies he will:
 - A. Ask new taxes--(the issue on which Mollet fell).
 - B. Request Bank of France advance and dip into gold reserve by 1 July.

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